

ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a novel class of
5 sulfonamides which are aspartyl protease inhibitors. In
one embodiment, this invention relates to a novel class
of HIV aspartyl protease inhibitors characterized by
specific structural and physicochemical features. This
invention also relates to pharmaceutical compositions
10 comprising these compounds. The compounds and
pharmaceutical compositions of this invention are
particularly well suited for inhibiting HIV-1 and HIV-2
protease activity and consequently, may be advantageously
used as anti-viral agents against the HIV-1 and HIV-2
15 viruses. This invention also relates to methods for
inhibiting the activity of HIV aspartyl protease using
the compounds of this invention and methods for screening
compounds for anti-HIV activity.